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A Part of the EchoStar Group of Companies

SATELLITE

February 12, 2003

**ORIGINAL** 

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street S.W. Room TW-A325 Washington, DC 20554

FCHOSTAR

Re: <u>Ex Parte Notice</u> - In the Matter of Digital Must Carry (CS Docket 98-120);

In the Matter of EchoStar Satellite Corporation for Assignment of Direct Broadcast Orbital Position and Channels (File No. DBS-88-01); Review of Media Ownership Rules (MB Docket 02-277); and the Two-Dish Proceeding (CSR 5865-Z)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. \$1.1206, EchoStar Satellite Corporation ("EchoStar") submits this letter to report that the undersigned and Charles Ergen, Chairman and CEO of Echostar, met on February 11,2003 with Commissioner Abemathy, Stacy Robinson, Commissioner Adelstein, Sara Whitesell, Commissioner Martin, Catherine Bohigian, Commissioner Copps, Alex Johns, and Marsha McBride of Chairman Powell's office.

Among other things, we discussed the harmful effect on local-into-local service posed by a single-dish ruling or a requirement that satellite operators carry local broadcast signals in high definition; the assignment of EchoStar's western frequencies; and the effect of the consolidating media marketplace on EchoStar's business.

**An** original and one copy of this *ex parte* notice are being filed with the Commission. If you have questions concerning this notice please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted

Bavid Goodfriend

Director of Legal and Business Affairs

1233 20<sup>th</sup> St. NW Suite 701 Washington, DC 20036

CC Commissioner Abemathy
Cornmissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Martin
Commissioner Copps
Stacy Robinson
Catherine Bohigian
Sarah Whitesell
Alex Johns
Marsha McBride